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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH STATESMAN

This is the last issue of the
semester!
Good luck on Finals

December 10, 2008

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Recession may impact UMD students and faculty

With state budget officials predicting a \$4.85 billion deficit over two years, UMD and the entire University system could face funding scale backs

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Textbook buyback around the corner

Students have several options when it comes to selling back their old textbooks

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Safer sex practices require more than using protection

Communication, trust and an emotional bond are all factors that need to be weighed in

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JOE OLIVIERI / STATESMAN

Students watch the UMD Bulldogs football team make school history in the Kirby Lounge last Saturday.

Championship bound Bulldogs

Saturday the Dogs square off against Northwest Missouri State in the NCAA Division II championship game

Sports: Back Page

Textbook sellback: options always increasing

At the semester's end, there are several options when it comes to selling back textbooks

BY BECKY EDWARDS

As the semester draws to a close and the holiday season comes into full swing, many students will be selling their textbooks as a way to get some money for the long break ahead. In the past, the bookstore on campus was the main source for purchasing and then selling books back when the semester was over, but now Internet sites have become an alternative way for students to buy and sell school textbooks.

The director of the campus bookstore, Jeff Romano, said that the majority of the books that they have at the store come from the book buybacks that take place after every semester.

"Usually we give an average of \$900,000 to \$1 million back to the students during each buyback, otherwise we get them at a predetermined price from wholesalers," Romano said.

However, the Internet is now an ever-increasing tool for students who wish to have a little more control over how much money they get and pay for used books with sites such as amazon.com, ebay.com, uloop.com and college-etrade.com.

It comes down to balancing convenience and cost.

Student Matt Drown said he has been using eBay for five or six semesters to both buy and sell his books, because he is usually able to save a lot more money. Web sites, he said, are more inclined to have used books and if there is a certain book the bookstore won't take, he can usually find a buyer online. He also said it can be tempting to sell the books to the store so he can get cash in hand right away.

"If I can be patient, it's worth waiting and dealing with the shipping process," Drown said. "It's all about research. It only takes about five minutes to see how much a book is selling for online and if the difference between the store and online is only \$5 or \$10, I will consider buying it at the store. It might not be worth the shipping and handling fees."

Drown said there have been times where he has heard of students selling a book back for the same amount they had purchased it for online.

According to Romano, the UMD store is very aggressive in acquiring used books and will buy back as many as they can, but it is all based on enrollment, stock and what the faculty determine they need.

"We receive information from faculty of what's being used and we request it early at buyback so we can buy as many used books as we can," Romano said. "When we sell the books back, we usually give 50 percent of the current new price if the book is being used next semester and then we sell it back for 75 percent for next semester, with the small exceptions, such as old editions. Otherwise, if the book isn't being used next semester it might only buyback for 30 percent, which generally happens between the fall/spring transition."

Romano said he sometimes recommends students hang on to books and sell them at the next buyback if the book isn't being used next semester, but to sell them back early.

While some students may complain about the book prices, Romano said that the store is just like any other store.

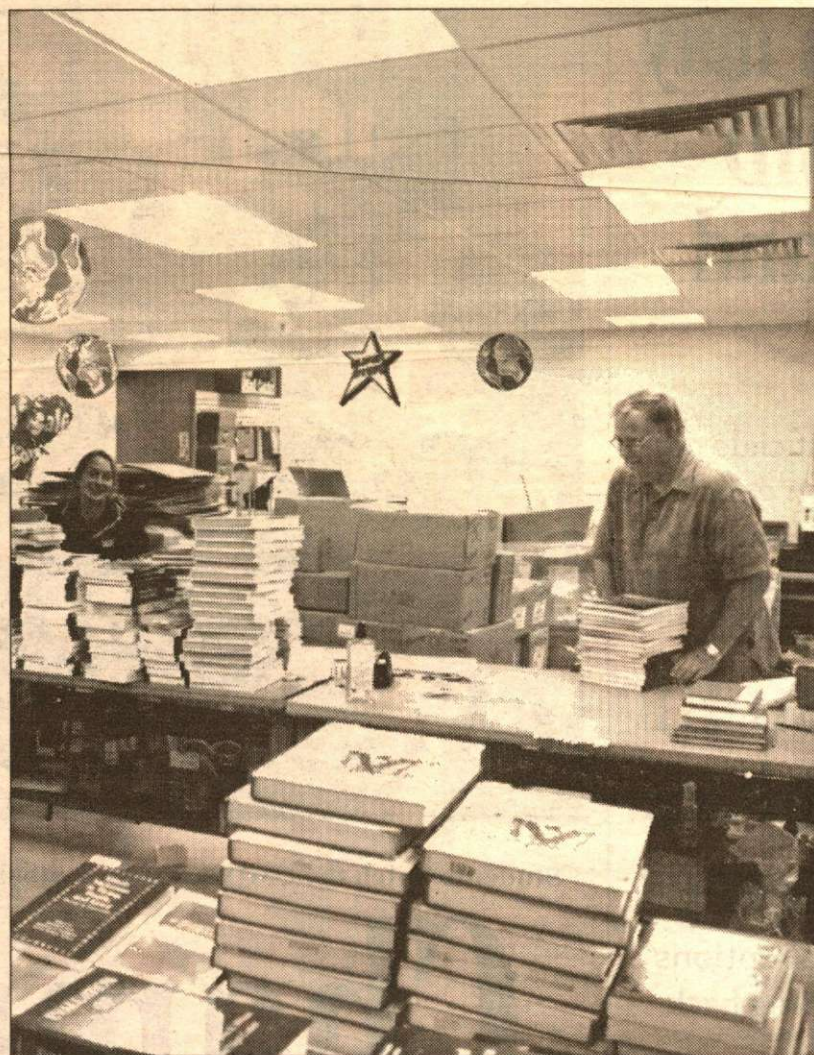
"We have to operate as a business," Romano said. "We are self sufficient, and we have to be fiscally responsible for heating, lighting and salaries."

Besides sites like eBay and the bookstore, there is another way students can sell and buy used books directly from others on their campus.

Spencer Johnson, a student at UMD founded the Web site college-etrade.com, which he describes as a more college-centric version of Craigslist that provides students with the opportunity to connect within their own campus to other students who are looking to sell or buy books directly from each other without the hassle of shipping.

The site allows people to post messages in categories such as housing, electronics and books where students can post supplies they are selling or looking for.

"There's more of a personal fac-



JOE OLIVIERI / STATESMAN

UMD Store employees Sarah Brovold (soph.) and Dan Hodnick prepare for the end-of-semester book buyback.

tor," Johnson said. "You can meet someone at school and see if it's the right book and in good condition. You don't have to worry about shipping problems and you can decide what a fair price is."

For some finishing up their first semester at UMD like Abby Guderian, it may be difficult to decide what to do with textbooks.

"Using the store is easier," Guderian said, who has decided to sell her books back to the store. "Setting up an account online is more than I am willing to do in the long run, but in the future if I can't sell a book back to

the store, I might use the Internet as an alternative."

Whatever means students choose to sell their books back, it's clear there are many different options and circumstances to consider when choosing the best method.

"It's a balancing act," Romano said, referring to the decision of whether or not to use the Internet to sell books. "As much as it's competition, it's good to give students an alternative."

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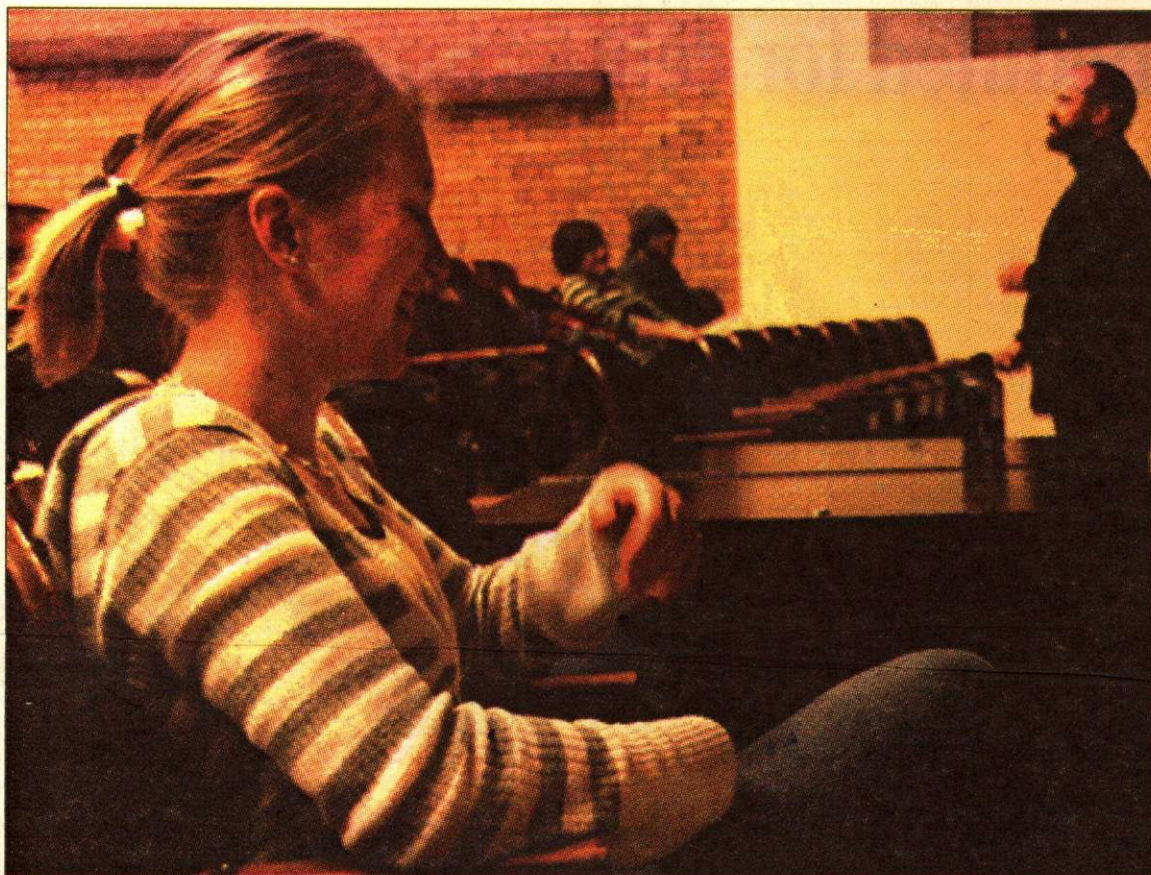
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Senior Ely Nelson laughs during Steven Matthews, Ph.D.'s Christmas presentation last Monday.

TYLER SWEENEY / STATESMAN

UMD learns the origins of Christmas

BY DONNA O'NEILL
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"Where did Christmas come from?" That was the question on everyone's mind on Monday night during a lecture by Steven Matthews, Ph.D.

The event, "Where did Christmas Come From?" was hosted by the UMD History Club, and

featured a lecture by Matthews, a bake sale with a bounty of cookies and cakes to help raise funds for the History Club and colloquium credit for History majors.

Last year, the History Club hosted the same event.

"It went over real well last year," said History Club member Shannon Kujawa. "This year we decided to combine the lecture and the

bake sale."

History major and senior Casey Quinn said before the lecture, "I came because I thought it would be interesting."

The lecture focused on where the origin of Christmas came from.

"What gets you more in the mood for Christmas than a lec-

See CHRISTMAS, Page 5

Motorcycle vandal turns himself in

BY VERONICA WILSON
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A UMD student turned himself in to university police after vandalizing a motorcycle outside of Stadium Apartments Wednesday, Dec. 3.

University police responded to the crime after receiving a call around 11:30 p.m. from a witness, according to University Police Sgt. Sean Huls.

"The reporting party gave a de-

scription of the person and the vehicle he left in," Huls said.

Moments later, the vehicle was found by university police in lot M2 outside of Stadium Apartments, according to Huls. Inside the vehicle police found two male UMD students who were both intoxicated.

"Both were questioned and denied having involvement," Huls said.

Although both students were of legal drinking age, the student in

the driver seat had a blood alcohol level above the legal limit to drive and was arrested for a DUI, according to Huls.

"The passenger was given a ride home, but about an hour later called 911 wanting to turn himself in," Huls said. "He was arrested for criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct."

The driver of the vehicle was not involved in the vandalism.

For UMD, effects of the recession just beginning

BY ERIC LUDY
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Until now, it seems the only way the economic recession has affected the students, faculty and administrators of UMD has been in a generalized anxiety about the future: A psychological malady rather than a tangible one.

In early November, the university implemented a system-wide hiring pause, asking hiring managers to stop and think before taking on new employees. It was meant to protect the university from the uncertainty of how the recession would affect the state budget, from which the university receives nearly half of its funding.

Now, with state budget officials predicting a \$4.85 billion deficit over the next two years last Thursday, it has become apparent that the effects of the recession will ripple throughout the university in a very real way. It will affect administration as it seeks a portion of a tightening state budget; it will affect faculty members as they negotiate a new contract with the university and it will affect students as they seek co-signatures on college loans from their parents—who may not have the credit that they had in the past.

Already, Sharon Witherspoon, the supervisor of the Student Support Services Association, which assists students at UMD in obtaining financial aid, has seen many instances of her office unable to help students seeking funding for their educations. More and more parents, she said, have been unable to co-sign on college loans for their children. In addition to that, she said students are receiving fewer scholarships from private donors. This leaves many with no alternative but to forego a higher

education.

"It saddens us that often we have no alternative. We kind of put our heads together to see if we can find any other sources. But sometimes, they're just not there," she said.

So far this semester, more SELF loans, a student loan administered by the state of Minnesota, have been denied than all of last year, according to Brenda Herzig, the director of the Office of Financial Aid and Registrar. She said private lending has also dried up, with TCF bank, Wachovia, Key Bank and a host of others no longer offering discounted loans to students.

"It's pretty dramatic," said Herzig, "and we expect much more of this in the months ahead."

While some people are priced out of higher education, others are spurred to go back to school after the sudden loss of employment, according to Beth Esselstrom, the director of the Office of Admissions.

Esselstrom said that higher unemployment has traditionally led to a correlating increase in applicants to colleges. While more of those applicants will likely lean towards two-year vocational schools, she said four-year schools like UMD normally see a spike as well, as more and more people perceive the benefits of attending a four-year university as outweighing the costs.

"In the end, I think practicality can rule the day," she said.

Even with the potential for an increase in enrollment, it appears that, for now at least, the number of faculty will remain close to its current level, with the implementation of a hiring pause in early November asking hiring managers at UMD to demonstrate a clear need before filling.

See RECESSION, Page 6

Stadium Apartments scheduled for renovation next year

Is it a renovation or a demolition?

BY ASHLEY SCHEILLER
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Rumors and speculations about what, if anything, is going to happen to the Stadium Apartments have been circulating across the campus. The Stadium Apartments were originally built in 1973, and after years of debating, plans are in the works to give Stadium the upgrade it needs.

Current Stadium residents have various complaints about the state of the buildings: "It's too cold," "The stairwells smell musty," "It's too dark; I can't even see" or "I can't even open my fridge; there is a closet in the way of the fridge door."

The problem now is facing the physical constraints of the building and being able to modify it. Department Director of Housing John Weiske explained that the original plan was to tear down the middle Stadium building and the one nearest to Malosky Stadium; however, at the last minute, those plans were changed.

"Instead, we waited on any reconstruction of Stadium and finally got the go-ahead with the current plan of renovating just the interior," Weiske said. "Stadium has such a unique design and we do not want to compromise the structural integrity of the buildings."

Residents of the Stadium Apartments had various ideas, and some had more exotic suggestions about what can be done to improve

Stadium's apartments.

Senior Alicia Weagel, who has been a resident of Stadium for the past two years said everything needs to be fixed, specifically mentioning the heating problems.

"The windows need to be fixed, the seals are horrible and on the two-level apartments, they should expand the spiral staircases," Weagel said. "They are dangerous especially since they are carpeted."

Senior Paul Workman, who has resided in the Stadium apartments for several years, had a few different thoughts on Stadium's renovation plans.

"When they re-do Stadium, they should add stripper poles and dishwashers; that would be awesome," said Workman.

Before any of these suggestions can even be considered, Weiske said they are first looking at the main goals of the renovation project.

"Our main priorities are fixing the ventilation, heating and insulation problems. Splitting the middle bedroom into two separate rooms, lighting issues and fixing the kitchen would just be bonus goals," Weiske said.

The renovation of Stadium will start in the fall of 2010. The plan is to close down one of the Stadium buildings each year for the next three years. Ideally, Weiske said they would like to switch to electric heating instead of the boiler heat used now, add some more lights, replace the carpeting and curtains.

But before any of these plans can begin,



JOE OLIVIERI / STATESMAN

Stadium Apartments

Weiske said that they are still waiting to hear back from the architects and designers.

"We should know what is feasible in terms of what we want and what is realistic by the end of this semester," Weiske said.

Simple modifications that Weiske is certain of are replacing the carpeting and curtains in all of the apartments. In addition,

Weiske plans to use focus groups comprised of UMD students and Stadium residents after the architects and designers approve the renovation plans, in order to better understand the needs and ideas to make Stadium a better place to live in the future.

Smoking on campus seems an annoying habit rather than a ban

BY DAVID COWARDIN
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Mustard-yellow blotches litter Griggs Beach. Blotches that were once cigarettes, once smoked and once part of an act prohibited on campus. Now they create an eyesore for students.

"Even though smoking is banned, there should still be ash trays," said freshman Kevin Gilbertson after taking a quick drag from his cigarette.

UMD is a smoke-free campus. The ban has been in effect since Sept. 1, 2007; however, many students still sneak in a smoke because they don't feel pressure from the ban.

The ban states that smoking is prohibited on all university property. It's a policy, not a law, so students view it as more of a guideline, not a rule. Now, in 2008, inching towards 2009, the ban is still in effect, but are students really taking it seriously?

Freshman Corey Gagner lives in Griggs hall near a popular hangout for smokers.

"The ban is not working because people are still smoking," Gagner said. "There are people out there all the time."

Gagner is in the hot bed of the action, but the ban is being ignored throughout many locations on campus.

Junior David Anderson claimed to have seen smokers almost everywhere on campus. The cigarette butts on sidewalks and in the grass provide clear, undisputable evidence.

"There is so much litter from cigarettes," Anderson said. "It's ridiculous."

Sophomore Erin Kraemer lives in the on-campus Goldfine Apartments and sees the problem there as well.

"It's so annoying walking through that cloud of smoke," Kraemer said with disgust.

Since smoking is still a regular occurrence on campus, even with the implementation of the smoking ban, something is wrong.



TYLER SWEENEY/STATESMAN

Cigarette butts in a pile outside the Swenson.

Raise your AIDS awareness

BY DAVID BUCKNER
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December is Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) awareness month, and organizations like UMD Health Services and AIDS Info Duluth are working to raise awareness and provide education about HIV and AIDS.

Many people know the basic information about AIDS as it's taught in health education classes. AIDS is a syndrome that is caused by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). According to AIDS.gov, HIV damages and kills cells of the body's immune systems. It destroys the body's ability to fight diseases and infections. This eventually leads to AIDS where the immune system is unable to fight off otherwise non-threatening infections.

AIDS is a world-wide pandemic, and there are over 1 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the U.S. According to AIDS Info Duluth, one in four people who are HIV positive don't know they have the virus. It is transmitted

by having sex with an HIV infected person, sharing needles with a person who is infected and from HIV infected women to their babies during pregnancy, birth or breastfeeding.

Dec. 1 was World AIDS Day, marking the 20th anniversary of the global campaign to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. Health Services and AIDS Info Duluth are doing their part on campus to offer education and testing for college students.

"Nine out of ten cases of HIV are contracted while the person is drunk or high," said Melissa Franckowiak, HIV Outreach Educator for AIDS Info Duluth. Franckowiak explained that one of the major ways that HIV is transmitted is from unprotected sex. "When people are drunk or high, they're less likely to use protection," she said.

Franckowiak stressed the importance of getting tested for HIV. It is recommended that people between the ages 13 to 64 get tested during routine physicals.

In an e-mail interview with Dori

Decker, health educator with UMD Health Services, she explained that Health Services recognizes that abstinence is the best method of protection against HIV and other STI's.

According to a survey of UMD students by the American College Health Association published in the spring of 2008, 30 percent of surveyed students reported not having a sexual partner within the past year. Seventy percent of surveyed students reported being sexually active in the previous year. For that reason, Health Services educates about condom use to protect against STI's.

"Our overall message is to communicate with your partner," said Decker. "Know each other's sexual history; respect each other's comfort level with sexual activity and personal boundaries. If choosing to be sexually active, make a mutual decision on what method of protection to use."

CHRISTMAS

from page 3

ture?" said Dr. Matthews.

Aside from a few Christmas jokes, the lecture

turned out to be an informative experience about where Christmas originates.

"Let's start with the only thing that any scholar can say for certain when we ask this question. 'When and

why did the 25th of December begin to be celebrated as the birth of Jesus Christ?'" Matthews said. "Here's the answer. I don't know."

His reasoning was that there is not enough evidence to say

exactly where Christmas came from. "The entire documentary record from the earliest times of when Christmas was celebrated fits in a manila folder," said Matthews.

Instead of telling the audience where Christmas comes from, Matthews explored "bad" theories about the origins of Christmas and disproved them using evidence.

He said the most popular

theory, which is the most common theory found on the web, is the Christianizing the Feast of Mithras, which boasts having unquestionable evidence and the Christians took over the holiday to eradicate paganism.

Matthews said the theory is untrue because there is questionable evidence, and went on to name other notable theories and problems within all of them, and evidence he found to be worthy of mention.

The lecture ended on a somewhat anti-climatic note seeing as the origins of Christmas were still left a mystery.

"I go to these [lectures] most of the time. They usually outline things that are current or important. They actually have something to do with the world," said Quinn.

Although the lecture didn't give an exact answer in the end, the audience walked away enlightened by information about theories of the history of the holiday.

SMOKING from page 4

Lt. Anne Peterson of the university police said that the ban is more of an educational and health effort. She said that it's not meant to be disciplinary.

"If we see someone smoking, we tell them to put out their cigarette," Peterson said.

She also said that if a student repeatedly violates the policy, then they refer that student to the school.

Director of Student and Community Standards Kathy Skelton receives the referrals, but it's a rare occurrence.

"The policy is a community effort," Skelton said. "We have only received one referral, and we gave that student a written and verbal warning."

Peterson said that they do receive complaints, but they are hard to act on because the smokers are gone before they can do anything about it. She said that it's more beneficial for students to act on the issue.

The ban is mainly implemented through student effort; they can be the greatest factors of change. But are students really willing to encourage each other to stop smoking on campus? Or is their presence in the issue non-existent? Kraemer never sees student intervention.

"People roll their eyes a lot, but they don't ask students to stop smoking," Kraemer said.

Since smokers don't feel pressure from the ban, they will continue the habit. And while students merely roll their eyes and cough through the smoke, cigarette butts continue to blanket UMD property.

Nursing professional at Health Services Steph Boisjoli sees the lack of student intervention as the problem.

"The agreement is that students will help students," Boisjoli said. "We all have to buy into it and promote a healthy environment."

Boisjoli said that smoke lingering in the air contains carcinogenic toxins that can lead to cancer and respiratory problems.

"If you have to walk through a cloud of smoke, there will be ramifications," she said. "And if you have to do it repeatedly,

then health risks increase."

According to Boisjoli, Skelton and Peterson, the ban is a community effort. Students need to help each other out. After all, it's the student's campus. The health and safety of the campus is largely dependent on student effort.

"We are ahead of the curve with this policy," Boisjoli said. "But we want to improve our efforts."

So, is there a solution?

Sophomore Kaila Tabatt thinks that more discipline should be implemented.

"If the school went through all this effort to make a smoking ban, then it should be enforced more," Tabatt said.

David Anderson agrees.

"If they are going to have a ban, it should scare students from smoking," Anderson said.

Some students want to place more discipline on the already existing smoking ban.

Freshman Mitch Gracik wishes to see a designated area for smoking so he can enjoy a smoke now and then without breaking any rules.

"There is a sea of cigarette butts outside of my apartment complex," Gracik said, "so there should be a designated area where students can go and smoke."

Boisjoli thinks this solution will defeat the purpose of the ban.

"When the ban was decided on, I think it was an all or nothing decision," Boisjoli said. "If there is a designated smoking area, smoke will still be vented onto campus, so if we allow smoking in certain areas, can we really call ourselves a smoke-free campus?"

As winter rolls in, cigarette butts will be covered by snow, but other cigarettes will burn through that snow as students continue to ignore the smoking ban.

Boisjoli said that the ban is still in its infant stage, but she has high hopes that it will improve from year to year. She is looking for students to be more proactive on campus, so that ground can be gained.

"What the ban needs," Boisjoli said, "is some teeth behind it."

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RECESSION from page 3

new or open positions.

Now, with the announcement of the projected state deficit, U of M administration has said it will continue to exercise extreme caution in taking on new employees.

In an e-mail sent to U of M students and faculty members after the state announced its budget forecast last Thursday, U of M president Robert H. Bruininks wrote that the university will continue to focus its efforts on "reducing costs, increasing productivity, streamlining operations and avoiding unnecessary job losses."

UMD Public Relations director Susan Beasy-Latto said everybody is being careful about expanding existing programs.

"We're watching every financial expenditure," she said.

The president of the University Education Association (UEA) John Hamlin is okay with the hiring pause, as long as it prevents the loss of current university employees.

"It's going to make the delivery of programstougher," he said, "but I'd much rather live with that than saying 'Bill,

sorry, you're gone,' or 'Mary, you've gotta go out the door. I hired you into a tenure track position but there's no money to pay you.'"

The UEA, which represents faculty of the U of M's Duluth and Crookston campuses, has a contract with the university that expires in July of 2009. In the months ahead, a new one must be negotiated.

Everything from pay raises to work conditions to any potential for layoffs are on the line. When Hamlin filed the paperwork to begin negotiations in late October, he had no way of knowing how profoundly the recession would effect the state budget.

"We knew there was going to be economic problems but we didn't know how bad it was going to be," he said.

Now, with the projected budget shortfall, Hamlin is getting ready for what could be a tough round of negotiations. In his 21-year involvement with the union, he can remember only one occasion when faculty members received no overall pay increase. That was during the economic recession of the late '80s and early '90s.

"We were in a period of retrenchment, reallocation, a bunch of r-words we were using at that time," he said.

Frank Guldbrandsen, Ph.D., an associate professor in the department of education at UMD, said that in the past, recessions have led to a scaling back in university programs. This is partially due to the fact that in the state capital, lawmakers view funding for higher education as flexible, and will subject it to severe cuts when necessary.

If historical trends are any indication, Guldbrandsen said, this recession would be no different from the last in terms of scaling back programs. In fact, he said, it could be much worse.

"This one is supposed to be longer and harder than the others," he said, "I guess we'll see."

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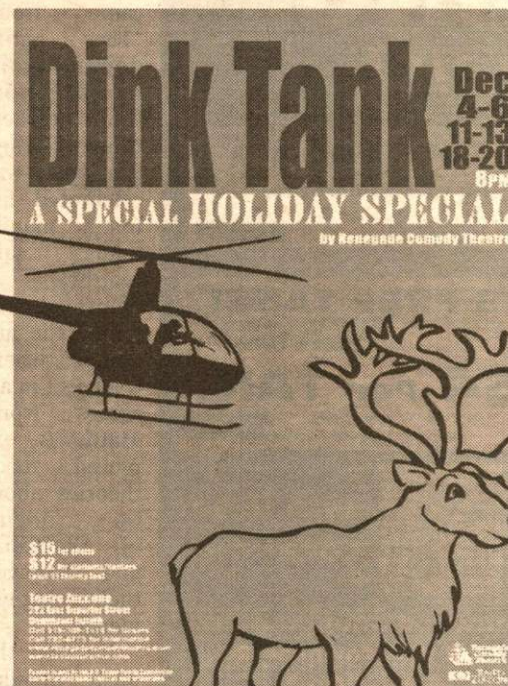
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ROTC programs offer support to nation's defenders

UMD's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Course (AFROTC) challenges students both physically and mentally while preparing them for the career world after college

BY KENDRA RICHARDS
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Many people know that the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Course (AFROTC) program at UMD prepares students for military and leadership careers while it helps to pay for college, but many don't know exactly what being part of the program entails. AFROTC students participate in a variety of trainings and activities that they will use throughout the rest of their lives in many different areas, making them great candidates for almost any job after college.

The basic AFROTC activities involve classes and trainings throughout the week.

"We have two days of hour-long physical training—running, push-ups, sit-ups, that kind of thing," said senior Tim Lhotka, a member of the AFROTC program at UMD. "These P.E. sessions are Tuesday and Friday mornings, and at the end of the year, we do football games and basketball games."

For freshmen and sophomores, there are additional practices held every Thursday.

"Freshmen practice drill to prepare them for the field training they will do the summer between freshman and sophomore year, and sophomores have form training," Lhotka said.

Along with the various training sessions, there are also AFROTC classes that need to be taken. They are night classes held once a week, and the length and study depend on the student's year in school.

"The freshmen class is the fundamentals of the Air Force, and the sophomore class is the history of

the Air Force—learning about strategies that have worked in the past and stuff," Lhotka said. "The junior class is development of leadership studies, which teaches them how to act in certain situations, and the senior class is preparation for active duties, which teaches them how to act at base."

Outside of the basic classes and training are tremendous opportunities for AFROTC students to get actively involved in military duties.

"I did joint training with the Air Force Academy and got trained by Air Force Cadets," said senior Britt Nemeth, a member of the AFROTC at UMD. "I did 30 hours of ground school and then five free falls, where I jumped out of an air plane without an instructor."

Nemeth said that there are lots of opportunities like this available for students interested.

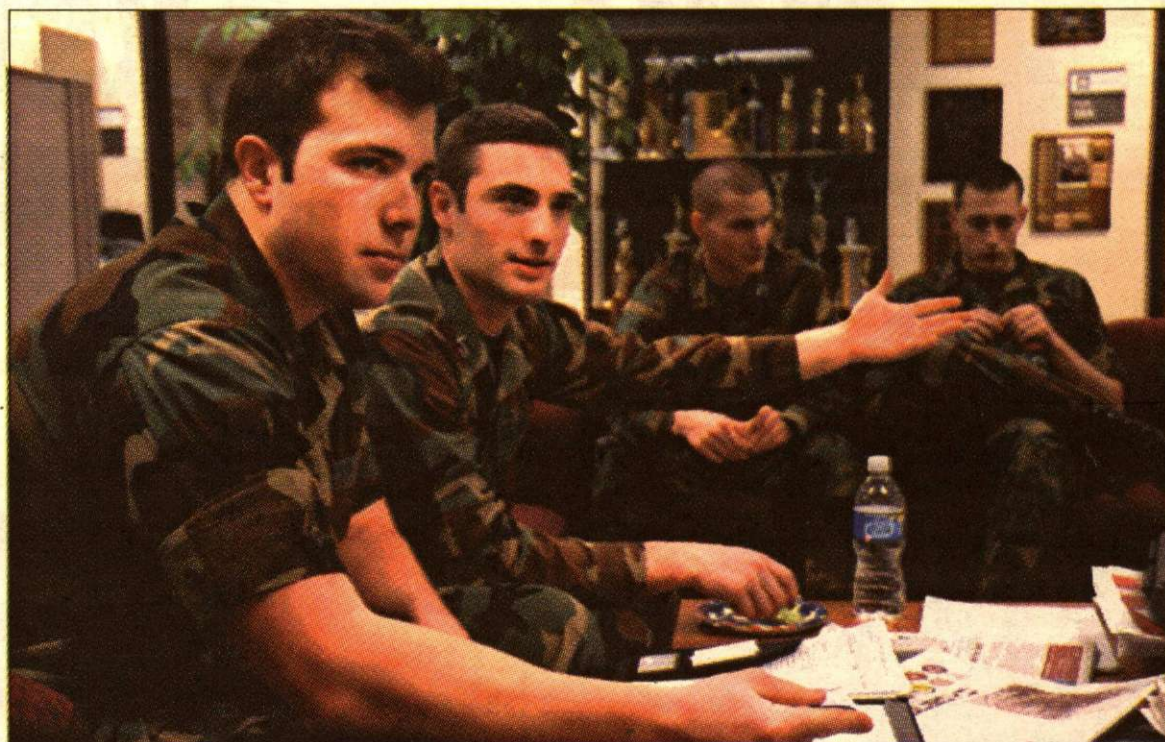
"You can go on base visits and do lots of traveling," Nemeth said. "I had a friend go to Cambodia, Vietnam and Scandinavia, and over break we are going to Arizona."

Nemeth also said that there is an upcoming opportunity for two cadets to get a chance to ride in an F-15 aircraft, and he is signed up.

"You hear about a lot of these things through the AFROTC," but there are also lots out there you can find for yourself," Nemeth said.

Between the classes, training and additional opportunities offered to AFROTC students, they are well-prepared to take on almost any career path they choose. There are a variety of careers being pursued by the current AFROTC students at

See **AFROTC**, Page 9



TYLER SWEENEY / STATESMAN

Tim Lhotka and Stigen Westberg (Left to Right) discuss upcoming lead labs for the UMD ROTC during their weekly meeting last Monday.

ON THE MENU

Fruit pizza



BY LISA KUNKEL
kunke032@d.umn.edu

2 teaspoons vanilla extract
Fruit of choice

See **PIZZA**, Page 9

Got a sweet tooth? Try America's favorite food with a fruity twist. Add your own personal touch by using your favorite fruits as a topping. And if you're running on a tight schedule, use pre-made sugar cookie dough to save time.

Ingredients:

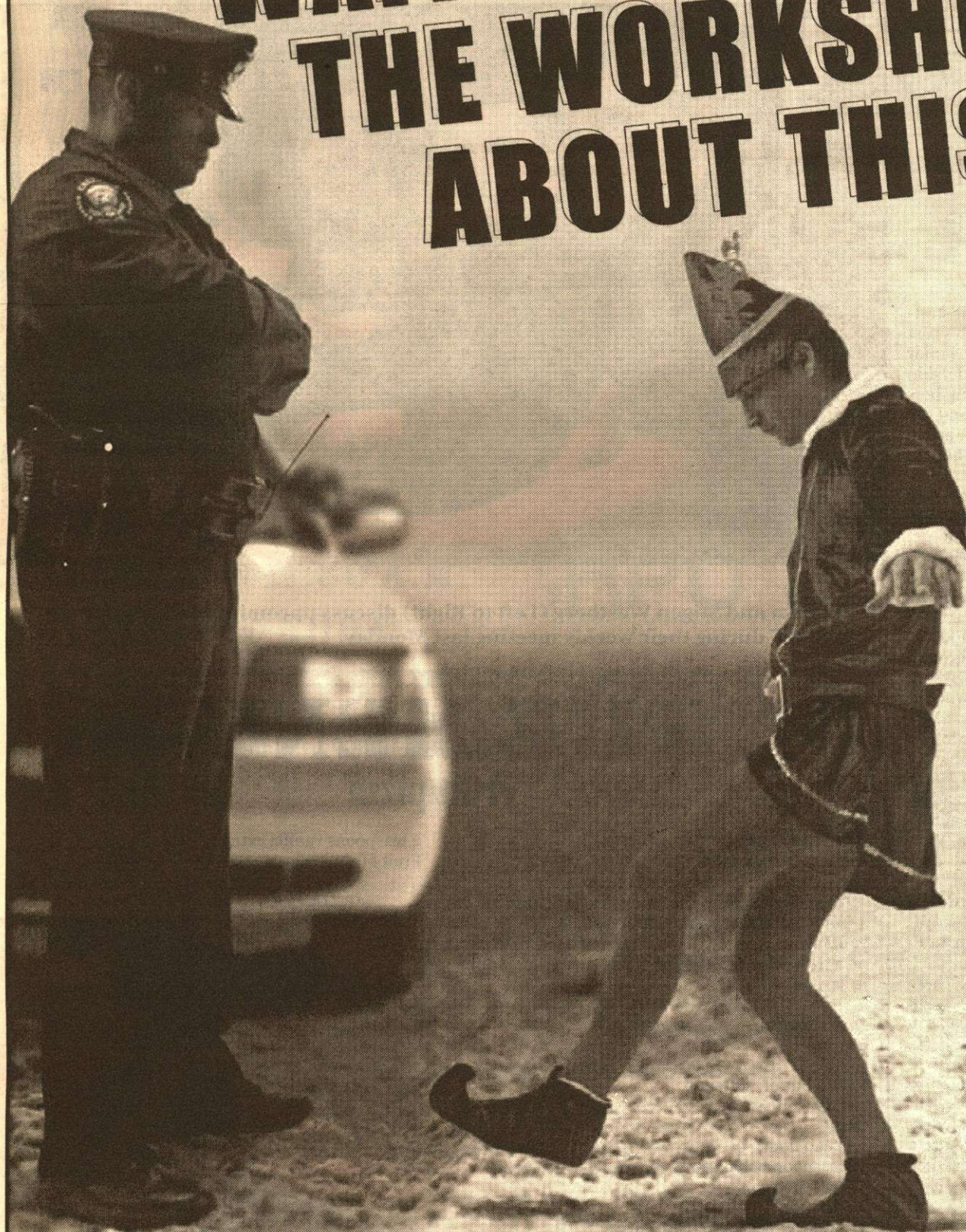
Crust:
1/2 cup butter, softened
3/4 cup white sugar
1 egg
1 1/4 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt

Topping:
1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
1/2 cup white sugar



TED NORGAARD / STATESMAN

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ABOUT THIS ONE.**



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Sex in the University City

by Shana Secory

BY SHANA SECORY
secor012@d.umn.edu

This year as the holidays are approaching, we all have a lot on our mind with finals, finishing up the last touches on our final class projects and what our holiday plans are. One thing that you may or may not have thought of is what you plan on getting your significant other for the holiday. It should never be expected to exchange holiday gifts when in a relationship, but if you feel generous enough, here are some ideas.

Junior Bryan Burns said that he thinks his girlfriend wants the new Sing Star game (\$59.99) this year for Christmas. Whether he plans on getting it or not, she will just have to wait and see. I asked him what he really wanted for the holiday and he replied, "I

need a new suit," but he said that cologne is always good, too. He also said that the worst present he ever got from a significant other was the Ludacris CD.

"It was even the edited version," he said.

Freshman Aaron Theisen said that he is getting his girlfriend a remote control car starter for a gift. There must be a high need for suits within the male sex because Aaron also mentioned wanting a suit for Christmas.

"But a sweatshirt or something would be nice too," Theisen said.

When asked what the worst gift he has ever received from a significant other was, he said "a stuffed singing pig."

Freshman Michelle Lord said the worst present she ever got was a university t-shirt. She said that she would hope her significant other would know her well enough to get her something she would enjoy or was interested in.

"Like music, he should know my favorite artist. Dinners are always good too," Lord said.

Lord also encourages men to go to Bath and Body Works for gift ideas.

"But you have to know what scent to get," Lord said.

Sophomore Yolanda Dux said that the worst gift she ever got was underwear.

"It is so embarrassing to open in front of other people," Dux said.

She also said she would like to receive either a massage or a vacation this holiday season.

Sophomore Kyle Swenson said he really wants Obama's book, "Audacity of Hope" for a gift.

"I want to know more about him and books are a good gift to give," Swenson said.

If you are still having trouble with an idea for what to get your significant other, remember that you can always just ask them.

"I would rather have them ask me what I wanted rather than just get something I really don't want," Swenson said.

Theisen had some advice, for women on how to find out what their guy would want.

"Look at their room to see what they are into. Gift cards are always good too," Theisen said.

Dux said that guys should ask their significant other's friends.

"Jewelry is also a great idea, I would wear it and it would be special," Dux said.

If you are the stylish type of male, Amazon.

com put out a list of the top gifts to give to a woman this year. The three top gifts are: "18 K white gold princess cut diamond stud earrings by Mondera" (\$225.00) perfect for just about every girl. "Apple iPod Nano 2 GB (2nd Generation) by Apple" (\$99.99) for the gadget-type girl or for anyone that doesn't have one. "The Sex and the City-The Complete Series (Collector's Gift set) DVD" (\$74.99) for the SJP-loving female, who, for some reason, doesn't own any of the DVDs yet.

For the women, gifts.com also put out a really good list of gifts for men this year. Gifts include: the "Customized Nike Dunk Low ID Men's shoe by Nike" (\$118) for the sports star. "Beer of the month club seasonal (4 months) by 'Amazing Clubs'" (\$123.80) for the partier. "Flip Video Mino Camcorder at buydig.com" (\$159.00) for the techie.

Just remember that gifts are supposed to be personal and fun and not meant to be such a hassle. The shopping is the fun part! And for those of you who are curious about what the Sex and the University writer wants, you must know that she has purposely placed her wants in the loving ears of her good friends. Enjoy your holiday break and see you next year!

Safe sex means more than using protection

BY EMMA FROMBERG
fromb008@d.umn.edu

When you think of safe sex, you probably think about condoms and birth control. However, communication, trust and an emotional bond are all factors that need to be weighed in before even considering whether or not to use a condom.

Sharon Anderson, a Women's Health Certified Practitioner from UMD Health Services, recommends getting to know your partner before becoming sexually active with him or her. This means that even if alcohol is involved, "ask about or know about their past sexual partners, their sexual history, if they have any STDS, or if their partners have," she said. "And share your information with them."

Public Health Educators, "a group of individuals that teaches sexual health issues on campus to increase awareness and promote safety and wellness," is a group that would agree with Anderson. Member Matt Stuart stresses knowing about your partner.

"The one area where college students could all improve has to do with intentions," he said. "Sexual relationships can become unhealthy when they are not built upon emotional connection. And establishing an emotionally connected relationship takes time and energy."

Stuart also said to make sure to get tested if you have multiple sexual partners or if condom use is overlooked, usually when alcohol is involved.

Anderson reminds students that "condoms are still your best friend." Condoms are the number one recommended method of birth control, and can also help protect against STIs, or sexually transmitted infections. The numbers of known STIs are currently rising at UMD. In the last two years, our STI rates have grown substantially higher than average compared to other colleges in the nation, according to Anderson.

The information on how to prevent getting STIs is available on campus. Sexual health workshops have been held this year, where students asked about condom use, HPV (human papillomavirus), oral sex safety and the transmission of herpes. If you are wondering about these topics or sexual health in general, there are two groups on campus that help to educate UMD students about sexual health. The Public Health Educators is one. The other is the Student Health Advisory Committee, or SHAC, whose mission is "to listen to student health care needs, evaluate Health Services policy, promote public health at UMD and improve health care at UMD," according to their Web site.

UMD Health Services can also answer



TYLER SWEENEY / STATESMAN

Sharon Anderson talks about safer sex practices.

questions and offers many options for safer sex. There are condoms available and Plan B is offered over the counter. Plan B is an emergency contraceptive for day-after use if a condom wasn't used. Health Services also offers full STD testing and lab tests for women who think they are pregnant. Anderson also recommends that females 25 and under get tested for Chlamydia once a year, which is the most common STI. However, everyone who is sexually active should make an effort to get tested.

For questions about your sex life or sexual health, you can contact the Public Health Educators at hs_phe@d.umn.edu.

AFROTC from page 7

UMD.

"There are a couple of us that are going to be pilots, a guy going to medical school and a couple people that are going to be engineers—developing weapons and air crafts and stuff for the military," Nemeth said.

The Web site www.afrotc.com lists a variety of careers available to AFROTC students. These include public affairs, mission support, physical therapist, optometrist, clinical psychologist and many more.

More information about UMD's AFROTC program can be found at <http://www.d.umn.edu/air/>.

PIZZA from page 7

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, cream together butter and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar until smooth. Mix in egg. Combine flour, baking soda and salt and add to cream mixture. Press dough into an ungreased pizza pan. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Allow to cool. In another bowl, beat cream cheese with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar and vanilla. Spread mixture on cooled crust. Arrange fruit (suggestions: strawberries, raspberries, pineapple) on top of filling and refrigerate.

www.umdstatesman.com

UMD STATESMAN

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Print media is dying. It has been for a couple years. Many writers, especially older ones, have made print media vs. online media a battle of young vs. old: The angry blogging youth vs. the crotchety out-of-touch elders.

Well, let's be honest; if this is a true winner-take-all battle, the old have no chance in the age of Wi-Fi and BlackBerrys. But that's not what this is about. There shouldn't be a war. Shifts in generations are inevitable, and in this case, so is a shift in the landscape of news reporting.

There seems to be a notion that our generation is going to ruin the news. A notion that once news transitions completely from print to online, writing will become nothing but profanity, porn and Perez Hilton.

Our generation is no dumber than any other; we just keep more technology to showcase our stupidity. But, that same technology has also made news and current events far more accessible.

Sure, there are some awful blogs out there, but not all are bad. Besides, there are some equally awful journalists around as well.

The idea isn't that all news will turn into blogs. The idea is there can be both news AND blogs. It's already happening. There are some really good, interesting blogs in cyberspace. At the same time, most newspapers place their content online.

In fact, many of you probably already get the majority of your news from online sources. That doesn't make you evil (unless you think perezhilton.com is news).

The strange notion that when print newspapers disappear all news will disappear is outrageous. Online news is just an inevitable outcome of the culture we live in.

People are always in a hurry. They want everything now, and don't have the patience to wait for today's news in tomorrow's paper. And why should they? Who wouldn't want updates as they happen?

The future of news is online. That doesn't mean the future is only rogue bloggers screaming obscenities. Yes, they will exist, just as they do today, but they won't be the main source for current events; just as they aren't today.

Our generation will continue to write the news. We'll just do so online. And hopefully, for the sake of both young and old, Perez Hilton won't be involved.

Eric Johnson

The Statesman welcomes letters and guest columns from readers.

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E-mail letters to: norg0042@d.umn.edu

Web site: www.umdstatesman.com

Letters and columns to the editor

130 Kirby Student Center

1120 Kirby Student Drive

Duluth, MN 55812

All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification, not to publish. The Statesman reserves the right to edit all letters for style, space, libel and grammar. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Readers may also submit longer guest columns. The Statesman reserves the right to print any submission as a letter or guest column. Submission does not guarantee publication.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Misleading Opinion piece about Rush Limbaugh

I hope Mr. Zethraus's letter about Rush Limbaugh is not indicative of the "change we can believe in" from the American left now that the election is over. Furthermore, I find it appalling that even as biased a source as a college newspaper would run such a sloppily researched and factually cherry picked editorial as this.

Zethraus begins with the true statement that Limbaugh called Obama a "Chicago thug," and then proceeded to state that this was a "racist" statement, made "without any evidence," and that "(Rush) is not calling any white politicians thugs."

A small amount of research would have gleaned the fact that Limbaugh adopted the term from an Aug. 26 article from the Politico, which states "Bill Clinton believes the Democratic nominee, far from practicing a unifying, transformational brand of politics, has the political instincts of 'a Chicago thug.'" I guess Clinton is a racist, too.

As to the term being used "without evidence," evidence abounds of political thuggery, particularly regarding Obama's use of technicalities to have all three contestants against him removed from the ballot during his 1996 run for

state Senate.

CNN quotes John Kass, a veteran Chicago Tribune columnist, referring to Mr. Obama by saying, "he is a bare-knuckled politician." Jay Stewart, of the Chicago Better Government Association said, "He came from Chicago politics. Politics ain't beanbag, as they say in Chicago. You play with your elbows up, and you're pretty tough and ruthless when you have to be. Sen. Obama felt that's what was necessary at the time, that's what he did."

Limbaugh's comments were clearly made as a counterpoint to the then current rhetoric from the Obama campaign against politics as usual. By pointing out the contrast between the Democratic candidates past behavior and his current rhetoric, he was attempting to make the voter question the candidate's truthfulness. This is very obviously partisan, however it is not at all racist.

On his Nov. 7 broadcast, well before this editorial was most likely written, Limbaugh said, referring to President Elect Obama's Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel (who inconveniently for Zethraus's statements is white), "[Mr. Emanuel] is a good old-fashioned Chi-

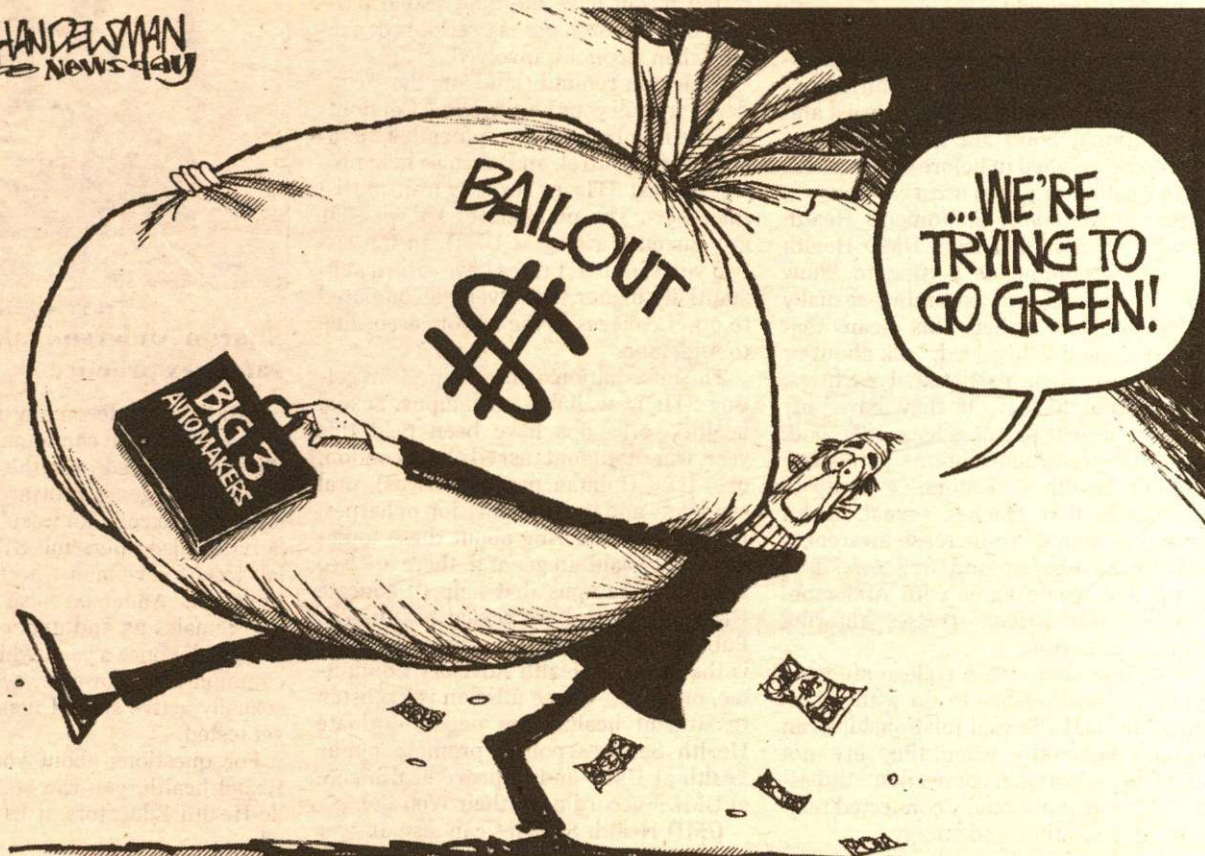
cago thug, just like Obama is a good old-fashioned Chicago thug."

This is the same Emanuel who mailed a decomposing two-and-a-half-foot fish to a pollster who displeased him. The same Emanuel, who worked as Clinton's chief fund raiser in 1996 and who, after the election was over stood up at a celebratory dinner, brandishing a steak knife, and proceeded to rattle off a list of perceived traitors to the campaign shouting, "Dead!" after each name and plunging the knife into the table. Sounds rather thug-like to me.

Zethraus said we should pick objective and unbiased media commentary, and I suggest he should have done that from the start. Limbaugh is a partisan political commentator who cannot be mistaken as unbiased. I believe one can say with a fair amount of accuracy that the same may be said of Mr. Zethraus. I would like to think the same does not entirely hold true for a campus paper.

Sincerely,
Sean Brown

WATHANDELMAN
and Newsday



Obama's cabinet picks: choosing rivals a good decision

Following in the steps of President Lincoln, Obama's cabinet of rivals shows a willingness to compromise

BY BROOKE NALAND
nalan001@d.umn.edu

According to cnn.com's recent article, "Most approve of Obama's Cabinet picks, poll shows," which indicated that 71 percent of those polled are in favor of the new cabinet, it seems that many, even some Republicans, are feeling optimistic at this time.

One intriguing aspect of Obama's appointments is that some of them—Hillary Clinton, for example—are former political rivals. While it's hard to say what the president-elect's strategy actually was in doing so, it is encouraging, if for not other reasons, because it will most likely bring balance to White House politics, something very much missing from the Bush Administration.

Also, some of the appointees are themselves Republicans, and others are known for having ties to Republicans such as former candidate John McCain, even if they themselves are officially Democrats.

While there is potentially reason to worry that dissent will prevent the Administration from going in a clear direction (a fair amount of those polled, according to an article on boston.com titled, "Obama cabinet picks get kudos," believe for example that Clinton will not obey Obama's orders if they have

a disagreement on foreign policy), at least we can take some comfort in the fact that, strictly appearance or no, this Administration shows signs of being more willing to collaborate and rather than trying to make reality fit a specific ideology, work toward a comprehensive understanding and method of dealing with things as they are.

This, in any case, is my hope, and I'm sure it is that of many others.

Certainly, it's reasonable to believe that this is just another promise made by a politician who won't actually keep it in the long run. Both Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter, for example, made this promise and in different ways failed to keep it. As such, a goal can imaginably become very tiring and difficult to realize for any president, we probably shouldn't expect that the Obama Administration will be everything that it claims it will be.

However, there's still hope. With enough

energy and enthusiasm, the new administration will be able to approach our current problems in an inclusive way, which at least will help to assuage the fears of some regarding the polarity that often exists in American

politics.

Following Abraham Lincoln's "team of rivals" style of Cabinet appointments, Obama certainly has made an interesting choice; let's just hope that it was a wise one.



BARACK OBAMA CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Terrorism: something needs to be done but what and who

BY PETER ZETHRAUS
zethr002@d.umn.edu

Several weeks ago, starting on Nov. 26, the world was shocked once more by the fatal effects of radical terrorism that plagued the city of Mumbai, India. The horrifying effects of violence unfolded for three straight days and turned the city into a battleground of blood and mayhem. Leaving the world shocked and awed in what is being called, "India's 9/11," we are now only left to contemplate how such an awful and horrific event could have possibly transpired.

Attacking at the heart of Mumbai's commercial district, the terrorists struck everywhere from five-star hotels to banks and cafés, and even religious centers. The death toll has climbed to nearly 200, according to the New York Times. Twenty-eight of the dead were foreigners, including six Americans and eight Israelis.

The assailants are reported to have been from Pakistan, making this the first orchestrated terrorist attack between India and Pakistan since suicide bombers attacked the Indian Parliament in December 2001.

The only gunman captured alive has told police that he is a member of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba organization, who have previously carried out attacks in the Indian-administered Kashmir region in northern India, which has been fought over between the two countries for nearly half a century.

As an observer trying to come to grips with this terrible attack, I honestly feel that it is impossible to try to come to a viable response and solution. Obviously something needs to be done, but what? What role does the U.S. need to play in this situation? After all, Americans

were targeted and killed by the terrorists.

Western powers are going to have to broker the negotiations between the governments of India and Pakistan. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown already had to urge Indian officials, while the attack was still underway, not to retaliate against Pakistan with military power that could possibly have killed more innocent victims on the other side of the border.

That brings to mind another possible question: Did the Pakistani government have knowledge that

this group was going to attack India? It is going to be a very difficult and diligent decision as to how to handle Pakistan's newly elected government in the wake of the autocratic and militarized rule of former president Pervez Musharraf.

Whatever the outcome may be, it is obvious that we have taken a further step into the abyss of radical terrorism and violence that has continually afflicted the 21st Century. We must work together on a global and humanitarian level in order to bring this terrible event to a peaceful end.

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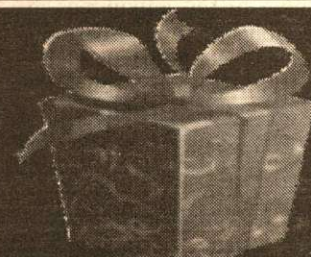
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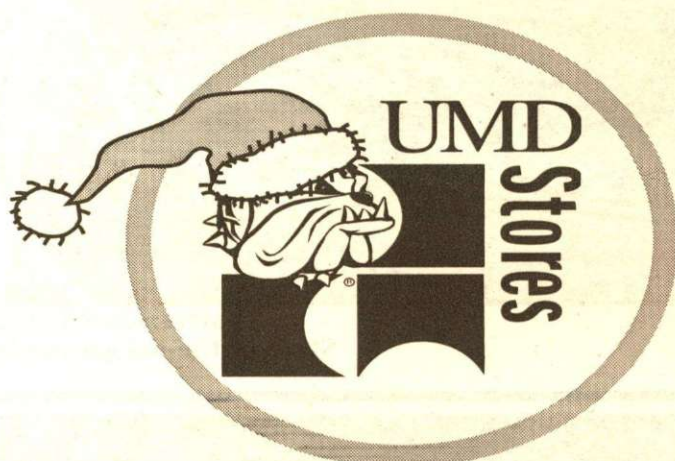
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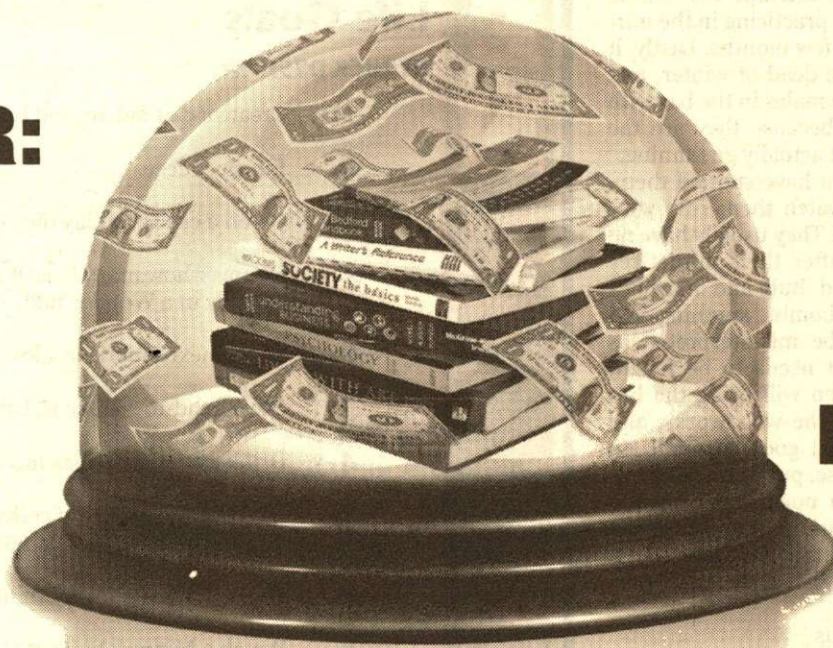
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Humor Editor Steve Jacobs is at jaco0731@d.umn.edu.

Tough Times for the Little Guy

BY STEVE JACOBS
jaco0731@d.umn.edu

With this holiday season approaching fast, some are feeling the burn of a downturn in business. One of the groups hit hardest by this trend represent a time honored profession of majesty. I'm speaking, undoubtedly, of the underpants gnomes. They are a hearty bunch that have diversified their trade into many areas. Socks and underwear make up the keystone of their empire, but they have recently diversified into other areas such as car keys, cell phones and flash drives to keep up with the times. Sadly, even with these changes, the gnomes have had a hard time making ends meet.

Why would this normally thriving trade turn around 180 degrees? you might ask ... You realize I can wait all day, I'm a paper and therefore do not need food, sleep or entertainment so just ask the bloody question already! That's better.

The answer to that question came from one of the little guys

themselves that I accidentally trapped while trying to catch a leprechaun (turns out gnomes like Lucky Charms, too). Introducing himself as Lollipop Tinkercup the Third, the gnome answered all of my questions and offered me a free flash drive to let him go.

"You see the problem is market-related. All of this bailout BS hasn't had any positive effects on our massive textile holdings. The only difference between us and more visible entities is we didn't get a ton of money to still blow somehow. It really boils down to the current demand. Our supply is, and has always been, paramount amongst the ranks of mythical klepto creatures, but the demand has just dried up," explained Tinkercup.

Tinkercup continued on the topic of the magical market, "Don't even get me started about those Keeblers and their stingy attitude. Think they're God's gift to haggling, not like they even need to with all of that money coming in from the family cookie business."

Suffice to say, the little guy had

a lot of pent up frustration, and in retrospect, it probably wasn't a great idea to feed a couple of beers to something the size of a small cat. Right before passing out, though, he assured me of the continuing drive of the gnome community and had a strong sense of perseverance.

One of my long-lingering suspicions was confirmed when he let slip that one of most lucrative areas for the picking was the LSH laundry room. It looks like that's where he'll be headed when he wakes up in a few hours, so just a heads up for all the freshies on laundry day.

You, too, can do your part to support the underpants gnomes during this time. Many options are available. One could send in a discreet donation of a beat up sock or torn boxer shorts to the cause by simply leaving them somewhere for an extended period of time and then forgetting about their location. Your assistance is appreciated.



STEVE JACOBS / STATESMAN
State-of-the-art gnome trap

LETTERS TO PEOPLE



Dear Popped-Collar Bar Patron,

Hello there. I am not writing this letter to anyone specific. In fact, I really don't need to because you are pretty much all the same person. With that said, I address the collective group of collar-popping bro's who frequent the bars I like to go to.

Readers, if you aren't exactly sure of whom I'm speaking of, there are four dead giveaways of a bro. First, they are usually wearing some article of clothing that looks like it has been dragged behind a jeep on an off-road excursion, set on fire, washed then put on the sales rack tagged in the \$100-\$200 price range. Secondly, you will never see a solo bro. They travel in large groups, usually in a large and generally expensive automobile their parents let them take to college. The sum of the prices of the herd's clothes could settle some countries national debts. Thirdly, at some point in the night, one or all of them will hear some overplayed

club song and attempt the c-walk they have been practicing in the mirror for the last few months. Lastly, it could be in the dead of winter, and they will be the males in the bar with a tan, simply because they are the only males that actually go tanning.

Now that you have spotted them, sit back and watch them ruin your bar experience. They usually have no tolerance, so after their third Grey Goose and Red Bull and maybe a couple Jaeger bombs, anything said to them will be misinterpreted as something that needs to be fought about. This then will bring the bro herd out from the woodworks, and every ones night goes downhill. So all I ask is please, put down your collars, act like a normal person and don't flash around your daddy's trust fund. I will take that shot you offered to buy me though. Thank you.

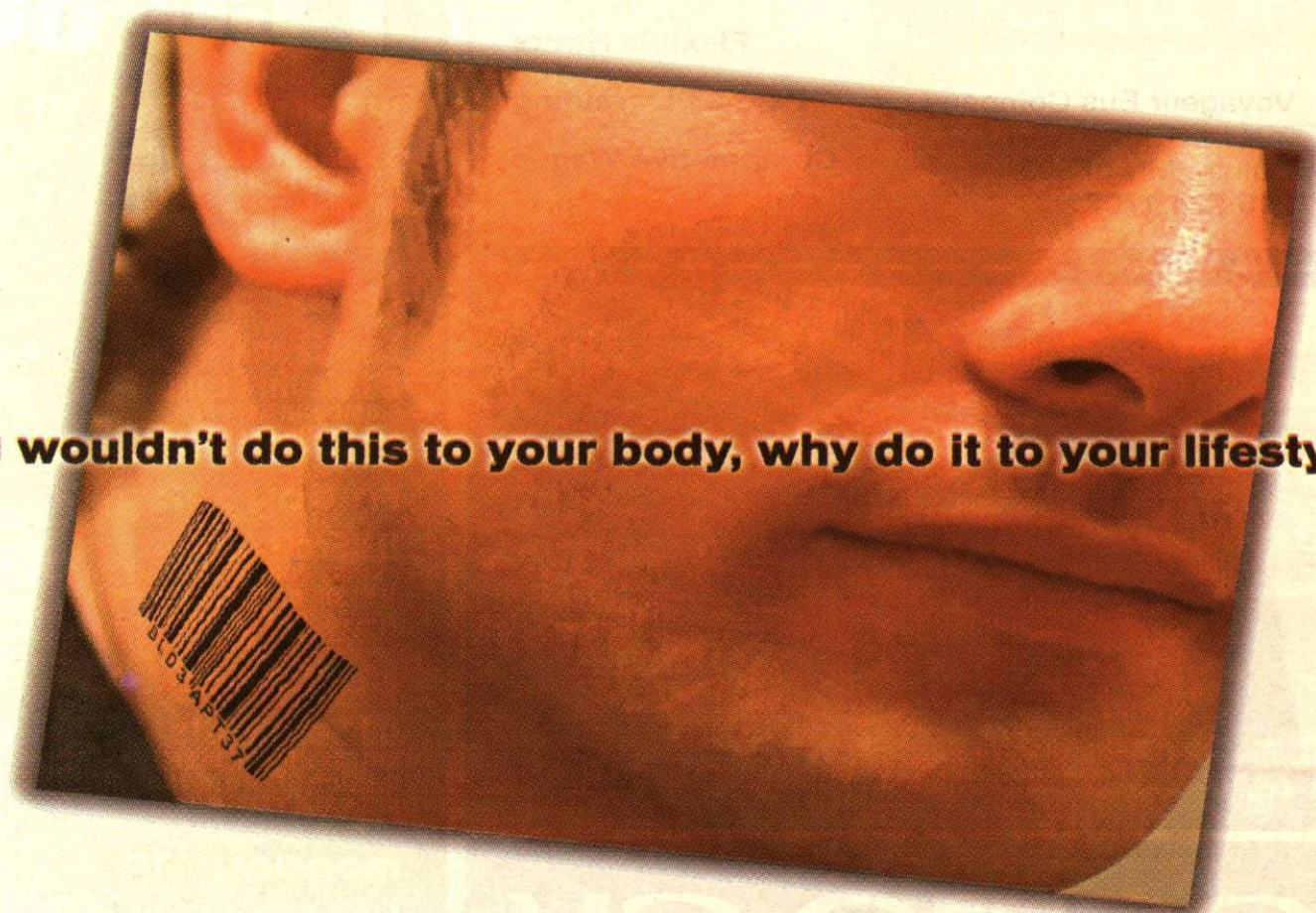
-John R. Brosius

TOP TEN

Life Goals

BY NICK DYSHAW

10. Create a diet fad around buffalo wings and fruit drinks (not juice).
9. Finish college.
8. Go on a cruise to play dice in Compton and visit the birthplace of Vanilla Ice.
7. Discover how many licks it takes to get to the center of a tootsie pop and what is actually in a Wonder Ball.
6. Be the next American Idol.
5. Have hand-to-hand combat with Chuck Norris and live to tell.
4. Drink a beer that costs more than \$10/case.
3. Find the "unicorns" of college: female engineer, introverted theatre major and an education major that hates kids.
2. Find out what girls are thinking to see if it is all just a big scam.
1. Watch a Minnesota sports team win a national championship.



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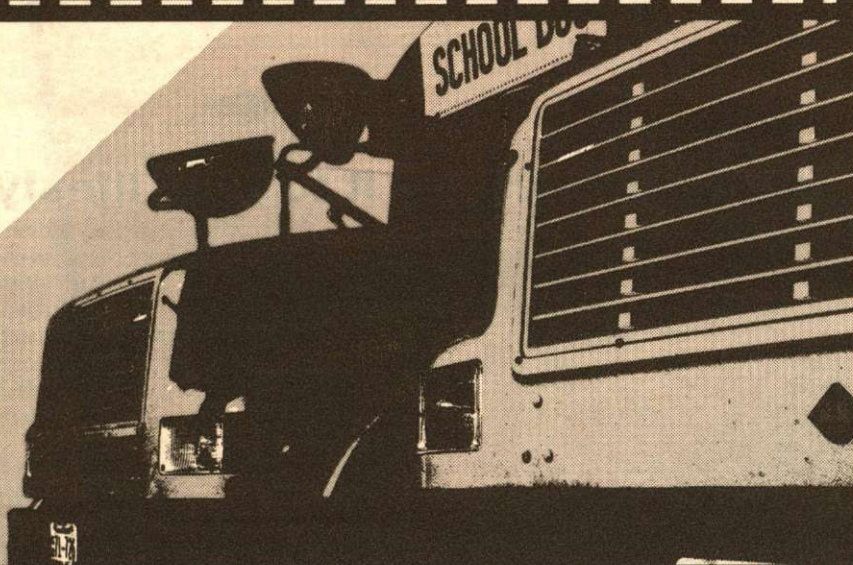
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PAGE 27 CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

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SUBMITTED PHOTO / LATE NIGHT KIRBY

Two students wrap gifts last December at a Late Night Kirby event. This year LNK is hosting another gift wrapping session on Dec. 10, called "Ho Ho Holy Crap," the event will be held in the Kirby Rafters at 9 p.m.

Kirby events ring out the year, and bring in the new

As Kirby's student groups help students relax at the semester's end, they are also planning what events coordinate for the new year

BY BRIANNA DEHNCKE
dehnc007@d.umn.edu

Finals are just around the corner and the Kirby Student Center is offering plenty of things to keep your mind off the chaos.

On Dec. 10, gift-wrapping will be going on in the rafters called, "Ho Ho Holy Crap" at 9 p.m. There will be everything from boxes to ribbons to the wrapping paper provided for free to students for last-minute gift-wrapping needs. Cookies and Christmas music will also be provided, and don't forget your chance to take a picture with Kirby the Santa owl.

On Dec. 11 at 4:30 p.m. there will be an event called the Relaxathon held in the Kirby student lounge.

With a relaxing atmosphere and free food, the Relaxathon is a great way to de-stress.

Pineapple Express, a comedy starring Seth Rogen and James Franco will be showing at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday night and 9 p.m. Dec. 12 in the Rafters, where free popcorn and pop will be available.

Nathan Guimont, the Kirby Program Board (KPB) coordinator, said these events were a way to relax and chill before finals come.

Spring semester will bring more events to students like the Out Cold week. The event has been a success in previous years on campus and will be happening again the week of Feb. 23-28.

"Heiruspecs will be here again and that's always fun" said Paul Strommer, Late Night Kirby (LNK) manager. The Heiruspecs concert is a part of Out Cold events.



SUBMITTED PHOTO / LATE NIGHT KIRBY

Late Night Kirby Student Manager Paul Strommer poses for a picture with the Kirby Santa owl. Students are welcome to pose with the Santa owl at "Ho Ho Holy Crap," on Dec. 10 at 9 p.m. in the Kirby Rafters.

Album Review: 'Lost in the Sound of Separation'

BY CHELSEY COURTNEY

court084@d.umn.edu

When discovering one of my long-time favorite bands had recently released their sixth album on Sept. 2, I was almost skeptical of the news that they were still making music.

Since 1998, the six-man band, Underoath, has been creating astounding music. But lately, because of rumors and the start of drummer Aaron Gillespie's side project The Almost, I could've sworn the band had broken up.

Even though the sounds of Underoath's sixth album, "Lost in the Sound of Separation," are almost identical to the band's previous album, there is a conspicuous difference in the new album that I

couldn't help but respect. It's the gripping lyrics that make "Lost" stand above all albums preceding it.

I wasn't completely sure what to expect from their newest release, especially after the opening of their not-as-alluring album, "Define the Great Line," in 2006.

As a diehard Underoath fan since their fourth album, "They're Only Chasing Safety," I had sensed a progression in "Define" from their Green Day gone screamo anthems to heavier and more versed tunes.

This progression wasn't disappointing, but their change to a heavier sound did lead to my disinterest in the band all together. Even though "Lost," follows the same heavy style as "Define," I found it to be an exceptionally pleasing album

all the way through.

"Lost" carries more weight in meaning and truthfulness than it does metal "heaviness," and that is exactly what brought back the interest in Underoath that had earlier faded.

Gillespie's intoxicating vocals, Spencer Chamberlain's expressive growls and veracious lyrics make each and every song on this album surreal and intriguing.

When reflecting on the production of "Lost," Timothy McTague, guitarist for Underoath, states, "I hope when people hear the record for the first time, I hope that they take away a sense of honesty." Clearly Underoath has accomplished this goal.

Critic's Choice: 'Rachel Getting Married'

BY KYLE DEGOEY

dego0016@d.umn.edu

Overall Grade:

A-

drug addiction takes a back seat to the overall theme of the movie.

Loving unconditionally is hard, and it shows in the relationship between Kim and her family. Not a single moment of the film feels contrived or forced. This movie very easily could have become a clichéd, cookie cutter family-based motion picture. Instead, everything from the shooting style to the performances is dead on.

Director Jonathan Demme takes a beautifully written script and makes it come to life. Using mostly hand-held cameras, he creates a movie that feels so real it could be mistaken as a documentary. Every moment of the film feels as if you are a fly on the wall watching a very real family dealing with very real issues.

Much of the realness comes from the flawless performances of the entire cast. Hathaway makes audiences disdain her with every lie she tells. But somehow, in the end, for no reason whatsoever, she wins back the hearts of the viewer.

Co-starring opposite her is Rosemarie DeWitt. DeWitt brings so much depth to a complex character as the bride-to-be. Conflicted by the selfishness of Kim and the obligation of being her sister, DeWitt begins to evolve into the heroine. All she wants is for one day to avoid being overshadowed by the presence of the ever-illusive, attention-hungry drug, addict sister. The dynamics between these two are heart wrenching.

The movie plays on every single emotion throughout its 113 minute runtime. It can spark tears of joy and tears of sadness at any moment. This film is near perfect and a must see.

KIRBY from page 18

Strommer is also looking forward to the Battle of the Bands events during that week.

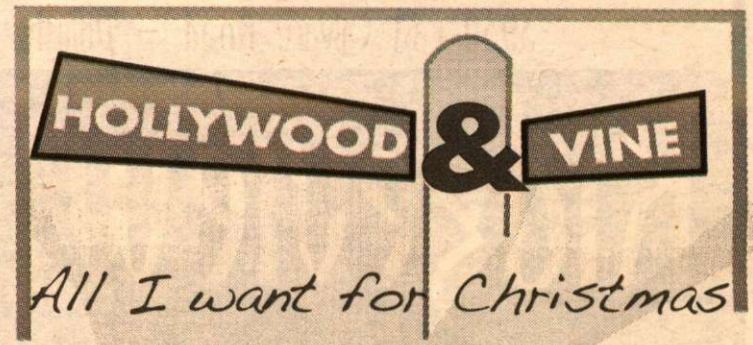
"It's time to get excited," he said. Student bands will battle once again for their fame and some cool

prizes, including gift certificates to several music stores.

KPB and LNK are also looking forward to another year of the Frozen Yeti Film Festival event. The film festival allows any student to make a film that is under 10 minutes, which will be judged by students for a chance to win some big

prizes.

To learn more about upcoming events for spring semester or about the Kirby Student Center, look for KPB and LNK on Facebook under Late Night Kirby or go to their UMD Web page at <http://www.d.umn.edu/kirby/latenight/>.



BY ALICIA LEBENS

lebe0051@d.umn.edu

great party.

With our finals fast approaching and the weather turning colder, the holidays are upon us. I've been extra good this year and here's my wish list to Santa:

- One copy of Britney Spears' sixth album, "Circus." After watching her revealing MTV documentary, "Britney Spears: For The Record," which aired on Nov. 30, Britney gets intimate with behind-the-scenes footage and opens up about the pressures of life in the spotlight. Looks like this pop princess is ready for a comeback when the album came out on Dec. 2.

- A date with a Jonas Brother. The Grammy Nominations were announced last Wednesday and the boys are up for Best New Artist. Leading the pack with most nominations is Lil' Wayne with eight, Coldplay with seven and Jay-Z, Ne-Yo and Kanye West who are tied with six. This years Grammy's sounds like it's going to be a

•A pony because, really, who doesn't want one?

- To look like Kate Winslet. The 33-year-old actress and mother of two was on the cover of the November issue of Vanity Fair and rumor has it that the pictures had a large amount of Photoshop but, while walking the red carpet of her new movie, "The Reader," Kate looks naturally fantastic, if only we all could be like that.

- Tila Tequila's new book, "Hooking Up with Tila Tequila." It's written by the VH1 reality show and MySpace star as a guide to love, fame, happiness, success and being the life of the party. If you want to be the center of attention, who better to learn from? The book hit store shelves everywhere on Dec. 2.

Here's wishing you stress-free finals, a wonderful winter break and a happy New Year. See you next year from Hollywood and Vine!



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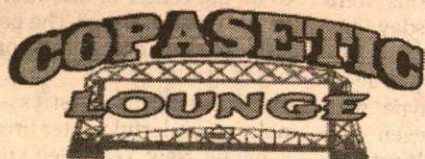
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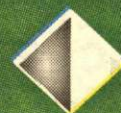
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SUDOKU 3

SUDOKU ANSWERS ON PAGE 30

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 911 respondent
- 4 Ancient Syrian city
- 10 Sicilian resort
- 14 "Norma ___"
- 15 More concise
- 16 Han Solo's love
- 17 Guarantee against failure
- 19 Org. founded in 1855
- 20 Baja beach
- 21 Antarctic body of water
- 23 Daly of "Judging Amy"
- 24 Shed tears
- 27 Part of a plan
- 28 Second-time employee
- 31 Aired again
- 34 Plus
- 37 Flockhart of "Ally McBeal"
- 39 ___ had it!
- 40 "The Bronx ___"
- 41 Lacking detail
- 42 Also not
- 43 Lennon's Yoko
- 44 Agony
- 45 Pair count
- 46 Part of a screwdriver
- 48 Passover meals
- 50 Stick it out
- 52 Feminist grp.
- 53 Equestrian game
- 57 Farewells
- 60 Slugger Hank
- 61 Country diva McEntire
- 62 Epistolary afterthought
- 66 Hebrew month
- 67 Jehovah
- 68 Arthur or Lillie
- 69 Org. of Ochoa and Creamer
- 70 Mammalian epoch
- 71 AOL, e.g.

DOWN

- 1 Break out
- 2 Virile
- 3 Roomy car
- 4 Gillette blade
- 5 Hoad of tennis
- 6 Go wrong

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69					70						71	

By Josiah Breward
Scranton, PA

12/15/08

- 7 Air pressure meas.
- 8 Czech physicist Beckmann
- 9 Stackable snacks
- 10 Palais du president
- 11 Pulp paper
- 12 Considerate
- 13 Perfect report card
- 18 One watching
- 22 Off-course wanderer
- 24 Military hat
- 25 Well workers
- 26 Composer Benjamin
- 29 Rapture
- 30 Former Lisbon coin
- 32 Acknowledge openly
- 33 Rex's sleuth
- 34 Black Sea arm
- 35 Childhood prohibition
- 36 Self-propelled railroad car

CROSSWORD

ANSWERS

ON PAGE 15

- 38 Hurler
- 47 Mystical teachings: var.
- 49 Practice punching
- 51 Plains tent
- 54 Small antelope
- 55 Easy strides
- 56 Scheduled next
- 57 Belgian singer/songwriter
- 58 Cry out in pain
- 59 Recital piece
- 60 Zenith
- 63 ASPCA part
- 64 "Who's ___ Boss?"
- 65 Sermon topic

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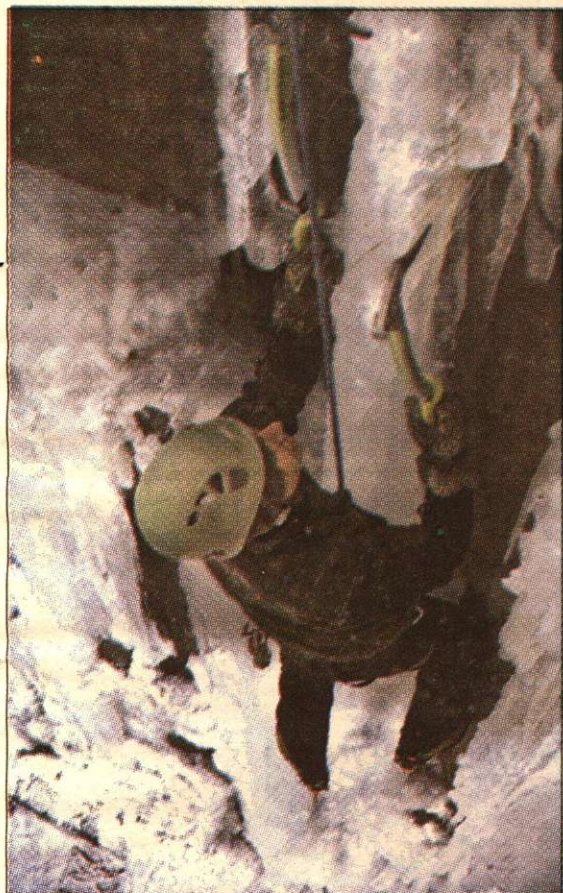
Outdoors Editor Ryan Hanson is at hans1679@d.umn.edu.

Ice climbing

PHOTO ESSAY BY TYLER SWEENEY

swee0172@d.umn.edu

Climbers enjoyed the cold temperatures last Sunday during the RSOP mixed ice-climbing seminar held at Casket Quarry. Participants of this rapidly growing winter sport use both rock and ice to reach the top of cliffs. Equipped with ice axes and crampons, these thrill seekers combine climbing styles to produce a whole new type of climbing. Located off of 40th avenue West, Casket Quarry contains over 20 routes for both beginner and advanced. Most of the climbing at this area is considered mixed, since ice only forms in small pockets along the large cliff band.



TYLER SWEENEY/STATESMAN

Left to Right: Joel Saice and Christian Fraser swing their ice axes 50 ft above the ground at Casket Quarry.



Snow and cold doesn't keep all bikers inside

BY DAVID COWARDIN

cowar006@d.umn.edu

As vehicles spin out and swim through snow-covered roads, Jake Boyce finds stability on two wheels. Most bikes hibernate through the icy months of winter under the dorm bed or in the back of the garage, but for Boyce, cycling is a year-round activity and should never be put to rest.

"It's a good way to break from my summer routine," Boyce said.

Jake Boyce is a recent graduate from St. Olaf University and works as a mechanic at the Duluth Ski Hut. To him, winter is go-time. He spends his summers on his road bike but when winter rolls around, he gets to break from the asphalt to hit the hard-packed trails. He usually bikes in the Hartley Nature area because of its high traffic of hikers. Highly frequented trails yield a harder

snow-pack, and according to Boyce, that is key for traction when cycling in the winter.

"Winter cycling is nice because you can ride anywhere and everywhere," Boyce said.

Junior Seth Carlson shares this interest with Boyce.

"Duluth is a beautiful snow-covered town," Carlson said. "I love to rip around on the icy trails and roads on my bike."

Unlike summer, winter cycling calls for a few more layers of clothing. Shorts and a cut-off tee just won't suffice.

"Your toes and fingers get really cold," Carlson said with a confident grin, "but you feel tough because you are usually the only one out there biking."

Boyce parallels Carlson's thoughts on the biting winter weather.

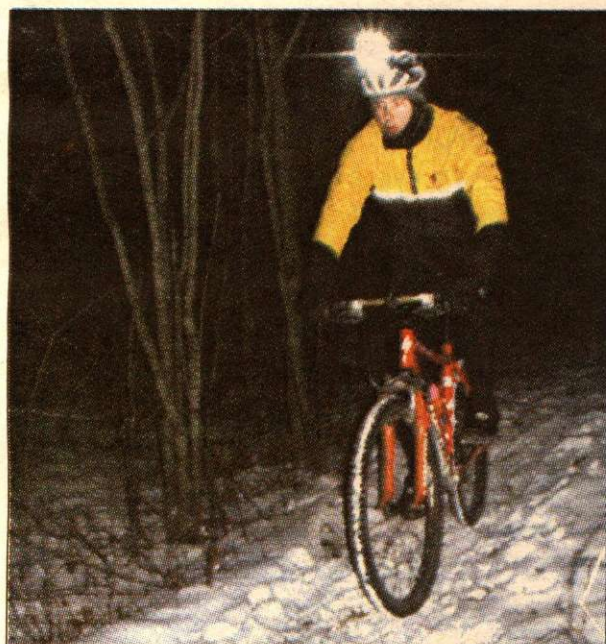
"Wear booties," Boyce said. "Otherwise your feet will freeze and that is no fun."

To Boyce, cars are unnecessary and there is no reason for bikes to lose air in the tires and accumulate dust over winter. Boyce and Carlson both cycle in the winter not only for the enjoyment, but also to stay in shape. Since winter tends to confine students to their dorms and apartments, winter cycling can provide an exciting way to work out. Boyce prefers to ride at night, where he seeks solitude on the trails.

"Riding at night is the most exciting because the trails are yours and yours alone," Boyce said.

So as winter pushes its way across the north and car batteries struggle to kick engines into gear, Boyce and Carlson will be grinning ear-to-ear as their treads roll over sheets of snow, kicking up snowballs in their wake.

"Winter," Boyce said, "is play time!"



SUBMITTED PHOTO / JAKE BOYCE

Jake Boyce enjoying a cold bike ride.

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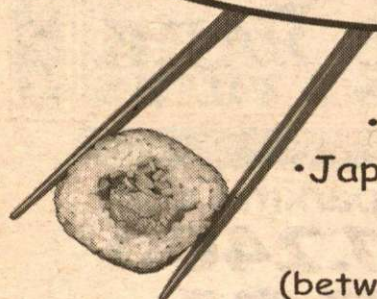
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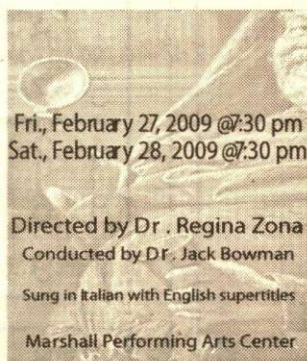
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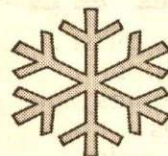
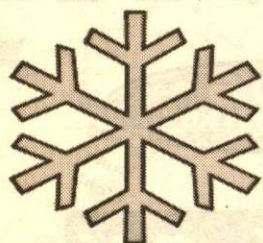


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SUDOKU 1

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SUDOKU 2

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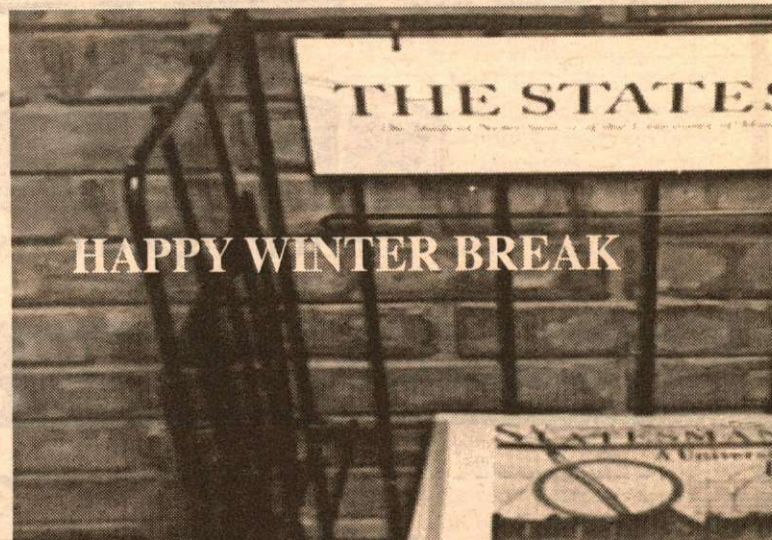
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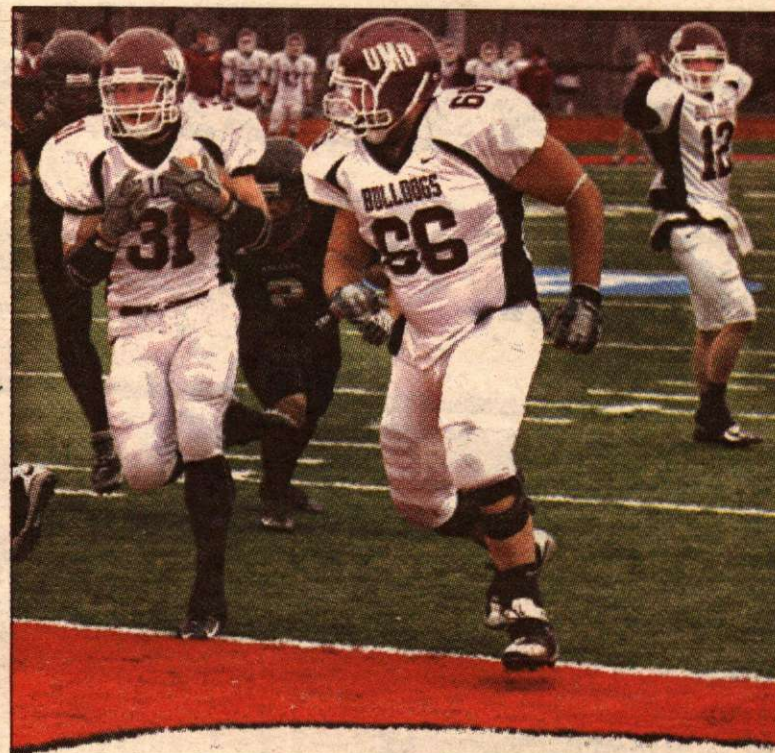
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Senior lineman Matt Horvath clears the way for Isaac Odum to walk into the endzone during last Saturday's semifinal game against California University of Pennsylvania.

FOOTBALL from page 36

afternoon, including a dynamic 51-yard run to score near the end of the third quarter. He finished the day with 126-yards, which helped him break another record as UMD's new single season rushing leader.

Assisting Odum in Vulcan destruction were his backfield mates senior Brad Foss, who rushed for 94-yards and a score of his own, and quarterback senior Ted Schlafke who threw two touchdowns in his record tying 46th consecutive start, according to the UMD Web site.

Not to be forgotten, the Bulldog defense put forth another stunning performance. UMD's dogged defensive unit was unyielding against both the run and the pass. The Dogs held California to 56-yards rushing, 133 below their average coming in to Saturday's contest, and forced three interceptions, two of them by senior safety Jim Johnson.

Sophomore linebacker Robbie

Aurich led the team with 11 tackles, while Johnson followed with eight.

Up next for the 14-0 Bulldogs will be the Division II national title game next week in Florence, Alabama. Awaiting the Dogs will be third ranked Northwest Missouri State University, who will be playing in their fourth consecutive final, according to the university's Web site. This marks the first time any UMD team has advanced to a Division II final, a fact that did not escape the students present Saturday.

"This has to be the first time we've ever done anything like this. I honestly can't believe it," said student Tony Mitchell, who wore his "lucky" Bulldog hockey jersey to watch the game. "The people here seem really proud to be Bulldogs, it's pretty cool."

Next Saturday in Alabama, the Dogs will attempt to take that student-pride to another level, and if this Saturday's game is any indication a championship party in Duluth seems quite possible.

RUNDOWN from page 35

On Saturday, UMD was in Moorhead looking to bounce back from a tough loss. It was another great effort by the Bulldogs; however the Dragons (ranked No. 13 nationally) came out strong, winning 75-60.

UMD senior Stephanie Reiter led the team with 8 points, while Ella Olson had a good night, scoring six points.

The women will head home next weekend to take on Upper Iowa and Winona State.

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Weekly Bulldog Rundown

BY MICHAEL BRINKMAN
brink152@d.umn.edu

MEN'S HOCKEY

The Bulldogs traveled to Colorado this past weekend to take on Western Colligate Hockey Association (WCHA) rival Colorado College.

On Friday night the Bulldogs got down early as the Tigers scored 64 seconds into the game.

However, the Dogs were not to be done in as they fought back and scored on the power play with a goal by Senior Josh Myers, assisted by Michael Gergen and Drew Akins, according to the UMD Web site.

Despite a hard-fought third period, the Bulldogs and Tigers squared to a 1-1 tie. Junior Goaltender Alex Stalock had a big game as he stopped 22 of the 23 shots he faced.

It was a different story for UMD on Saturday, as they partook in a goal scoring party en route to taking down the Tigers 7-4.

The Dogs, who once again got down early, came back from a 2-0 deficit, as they proved their own dominance. The Dogs proceeded to score five second-period goals. UMD added two more in the third to solidify the big win.

Junior Jordan Fulton was a top Dog on Saturday, scoring two goals for UMD.

UMD is now unbeaten in their last five games and will return home next weekend to take on Michigan Tech. Games are scheduled at 7:07 on Friday and Saturday.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The team traveled to both Crookston and Moorhead this past weekend for a weekend of Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) play.

On Friday night, the Bulldogs got a huge weekend spark as they defeated Crookston 58-56 in a classic barnburner. It was a hard fought game throughout, however the Dogs got the upper hand as junior Ron White hit the game winner with just 3.2 seconds left and secured the win.

It was also a big night for UMD seniors Bryan Sykora and John Vaudreuil as they combined for 35 points in the win.

With a big win on Friday, the Bulldogs looked for a repeat performance in Moorhead on Saturday. The Dogs showcased their dominance as they took down the Golden Bears 68-48. UMD was actually down by three at half time, but they cashed in on a huge second half.

The Bulldogs started with a 27-8 second half run and never looked back. Vaudreuil and White once again had big games for the Dogs

as they each scored 15 and 14 points respectively to lead the team.

UMD will now travel home to take on Upper Iowa on Friday and defending Division 2 champions Winona State this weekend.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The team geared up for a big week with some big games.

On Wednesday, the Dogs were at home to take on the University of Wisconsin Eau-Claire. It was a hard fought battle by both teams; however the Bulldogs came up short, losing 67-52. It was a big game for junior Jheri Ducker, who recorded double-digits with 13 points and 15 rebounds.

Junior forward Jordanne Even also had a big game for the Dogs, recording a season high in points, while draining 4-of-9 three pointers.

Over the weekend, the Bulldogs took the road to face NSIC rivals Crookston and Moorhead.

Despite another hard fought battle on Friday, UMD lost in overtime 70-64. Freshman Shelly Stemper stepped up for the Bulldogs, recording season highs with 12 points and eight rebounds. Sophomore Kelsey Hewitt also had a big game, scoring 11 points and 11 rebounds.

See RUNDOWN, Page 34

The Dogs sweep the Bemidji State Beavers

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

BY KJESTINE BRINKMAN
stein713@d.umn.edu

The University of Minnesota Duluth's women hockey team took on Bemidji State this weekend in a home series.

And the Bulldog's stellar offense set up an easy sweep, as the Dogs dominated the play.

Friday's game was a matchup between the No. 4 ranked Dogs and the winless Beavers.

Just 56 seconds into the game, junior Elin Holmlöv proved why UMD deserves the No. 4 slot.

Her goal with assists to fellow juniors Heidi Pelltari and Emmanuel Blais was the first on the night, but Holmlöv's 12th of the season.

Duluth native Tawni Mattila added her own goal just three minutes later, giving her team the 2-0 advantage. Bemidji did capitalize on a power play in the first, as well as

keeping up with Duluth's scoring, later reducing the Dogs lead to 2-1 in the second period.

Sophomore Laura Fridfinnson stopped the Beavers in their tracks just 2:26 into the second by scoring UMD's third goal of the night. From there, the Dogs never looked back.

Both freshman Pernilla Winberg and sophomore Haley Irwin netted goals for UMD and Bemidji did score a second time; but the win for the Dogs was in the books at 5-2.

Junior netminder Kim Martin started this game, but was taken out because of an injury. The win went to senior Johanna Ellison for her 4th victory in her career.

"Everyone played," said head coach Shannon Miller. "Everyone had success and we definitely had fun playing together."

Saturday was more of the same for the Bulldog women as they took on Bemidji for the second game in

their series; this time with Ellison in the goal from the drop of the puck.

Fridfinnson started the scoring for UMD just 6:20 into the game with a little help from juniors Sarah Murray and Jaime Rasmussen on the assist.

Sophomore Libby Guzzo added her own tally to the board in the second and gave the Dogs the 2-0 lead going into the third period. Both Blais and junior Saara Tuominen scored in the third.

Ellison stopped 20 shots in the 4-1 victory for the Dogs giving her and UMD the series sweep over the Beavers.

"It was a great weekend for the team," Miller said.

The Bulldogs will take on Princeton University this weekend at home; the games are scheduled for 3:07 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

The Average Guy



BY JARED DYRDAHL
dyrda009@d.umn.edu

As I sat on my couch awaiting the announcement of which obscure bowl game the Minnesota Golden Gophers football team would play in, a strange thought passed through my brain. I wondered if there was a better way for college football to identify the best teams in the land. A way that would eliminate all of the meaningless bowl games that dominate ESPN's television coverage from mid-December until early January. Instead of watching the 34th annual Toilet Bowl presented by Scrubbing Bubbles, could I watch something a little more mundanely titled like the Division I National Quarterfinals?

The current playoff format employed by the NCAA not only subjects fans to 20 or so completely meaningless football games, but it also removes the suspense and drama of the sport from its gridiron arena. The current Bowl Championship Series formula determines who plays in the meaningful bowl games, including the national championship, is calculated by a computer. As a sports fan, would you rather see a handful of meaningful games between the nation's best teams determined by a panel of experts who pick the match-ups or a series of five games whose combatants are determined by a computer and whose outcomes generate more debate as to who is the best team in the country than consensus about that year's champion?

Take for example the mess that the BCS has created this year. The recently announced championship game pits the Florida Gators against the Oklahoma Sooners, but a number of other teams believe that they also deserve a shot at the grand prize. One loss teams like Big 10 champion Penn State whose only loss was to Iowa by a single point, Pac-10 champion University of Southern California who many regard as the nation's most talented team, and Texas, who actually beat Oklahoma head

to head in a game played on a neutral field, all believe that they have unjustly been left out by the BCS computers. What would be the harm in letting these teams battle it out with each other for a national championship? That exact system is implemented in almost every other NCAA sport, including the other four levels of football (as UMD fans know by now).

Of course most people would choose to see a series of meaningful games in which teams eliminate each other until one champion emerges. However, this will more than likely not happen in the foreseeable future because of the staggering amount of money that corporate sponsors, bowl committees and bowl destinations make by staging the event. The stubbornness of the powers that be in college football will not bend to pressure, which is best evidenced by their recent shrugging off of a playoff system suggested by President-Elect Barack Obama (who in case you haven't noticed is pretty popular and powerful nowadays).

The Average Guy's solution to the problem looks a little something like this:

Shorten the season to 10 games: this will make teams schedule more aggressively to impress a potential committee and will make nearly every game meaningful for the season, which detractors of a playoff format say will happen if the system is adopted.

Appoint a committee to select 32 teams to play in the playoff: much like the basketball equivalent this committee would be charged with selecting and seeding teams in a bracket. Give out 10 automatic bids for the winners of each conference and allow the committee to select the 22 best at-large teams from the rest of the field.

Keep the bowls—let higher-seeded teams have home-field advantage for the first two rounds and then schedule teams to play neutral site games at the bowl destinations. In this way you only use about 7 bowls, so if you want to still have separate one game bowls for teams who don't qualify for the playoff you can still do so.

Sit back and enjoy—this one speaks for itself, but given the current state of affairs in the college football universe I doubt that you or I will ever live to see it.



SUBMITTED PHOTO / CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENN. ATHLETIC DEPT

Sophomore Brad Foss pulls away from a Vulcan defender during last Saturday's semifinal victory against California University of Pennsylvania.

FOOTBALL

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

BY MARK WARNER
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As another December Saturday came and went, the Bulldog football team captured another historic victory, but this time, the UMD student body was along for the ride.

With the Dogs in Pennsylvania and ESPN Classic broadcasting the game nationally, UMD's Kirby Lounge hosted a viewing party and students turned out en masse. With the promise of free hot dogs and chili and ac-

cess to a game not available on basic cable, a standing room-only crowd packed the lounge, a fact that surprised even those running the event.

"I can't believe this many kids showed up, this was so last minute," said Mike Ferguson, a UMD freshman who works for Kirby and set up the viewing screen himself. "These guys are really getting into the Bulldogs."

And who could blame them? Saturday's clash with the California University of Pennsylvania Vulcans in the Division II semifi-

nals was supposed to be among this season's greatest tests for the Dogs, but they aced it with a 45-7 victory to advance to the national championship game.

Ranked seventh nationally and riding an eleven-game winning streak, the Vulcans' high powered offense seemed destined to challenge a UMD team fresh off the biggest win in the program's history last week in Michigan, but the game quickly turned to a rout; much to the pleasure of the fans watching back in Duluth.

When sophomore Isaac Odim plunged into the end zone from a yard out with 3:40 remaining in the first half, a standing ovation burst forth that must have been audible throughout the school; and the mood only got happier as the day went on.

After breaking the school's single season rushing touchdown record with his first score, Odim's day was only getting started.

He would score three more times on the